

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01

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R 081610Z JAN 74

FM USINT ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 999

UNCLAS ALGIERS 0045

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ECG, AG

SUBJ: ALGERIAN 1974 SPENDING BUDGET

1. ALGERIA ANNOUNCED ITS BUDGET FOR 1974 ON JANUARY 7, 1974. BUDGET WILL BE REPORTED IN FULL BY AIRGRAM, BUT KEY POINTS ARE A HUGE 33 PERCENT INCREASE IN GOVERNMENT SPENDING TO 14,173 MILLION DINARS (ROUGHLY 3.5 BILLION DOLS). IN ADDITION NATIONAL COMPANIES WILL INCREASE THEIR INVESTMENTS BY 45 PERCENT TO 11,308 MILLION DINARS (2.8 BILLION DOLS.) TOTAL STATE AND NATIONAL COMPANY INVESTMENTS IN 1974 WILL INCREASE 47 PERCENT TO 17,673 MILLION DINARS (4.4 BILLION DOLS.)

2. MINISTER OF FINANCE MAHROUG EMPHASIZED THAT THE BUDGET IN 1973 AND FOR 1974 WOULD BE IN BALANCE DUE TO THE LARGE INCREASE IN GOVERNMENT TAXES ON PETROLEUM. THESE RECEIPTS ARE CITED AS 4,110 MILLION DINARS IN 1973 AND 6,500 MILLION DINARS IN 1974 (RESPECTIVELY 1 BILLION DOLS. AND 1.6 BILLION DOLS). A FEW TAX CHANGES WERE ALSO ANNOUNCED.

3. MAHROUG EMPHASIZED THAT THE COST OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS WAS ONLY INCREASING 19 PERCENT WHILE CAPITAL COSTS WERE INCREASING 55 PERCENT. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED 30 PERCENT OF THE GOVERNMENT BUDGET WAS TO GO INTO EDUCATION AND HUMAN TRAINING.

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